

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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SUBJ: SHMUEL TAMIR'S VIEW ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES

REF: STATE 215086

1. THERE FOLLOWS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF FULL TEXT OF
ARTICLE REQUESTED REFTEL, (UNIMPORTANT WORDS DELETED):

2. THIS WEEK THE INTERNALCONFRONTATION IN THE FREE
CENTER BROKE OUT, THE FREE CENTER IS DOING SOME THOROUGH
"POLITICAL SOUL-SEARCHING FOLLOWING THE YOM KIPPUR WAR."
ON THE PART OF MK SHMUEL TAMIR THIS NEEDED--UNDER THE
CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING IN LIKUD--CONSIDERABLE
DARING. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A POLICY SPEECH
BY THE LEADER OF ONE OF THE Factions OF LIKUD, GRAVE
DOUBTS WERE VOICED CONCERNING THE THESIS OF THE "INTEG-
RITY OF THE COUNTRY" (GREATER ISRAEL). ALTHOUGH HIS
VIEWS ARE FAR FROM THE "DOVES," IT WAS A SERIOUS
BREACH IN THE OFFICIAL MONOLITHIC WALL OF THE LIKUD
ON ITS PRINCIPAL QUESTION. PARA "ALREADY FROM
THE SECOND DAY OF THE WAR I HAD THE FEELING THAT THIS
WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST DISASTERS THAT HAS HAPPENED ON OUR WAY
TO NATIONAL REVIVAL"--MK TAMIR OPENED HIS DRAMATIC SPEECH.
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PARA IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEW REALITY CREATED BY THE WAR, TAMIR

APPEALED TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN' TO ESCHEW ILLUSIONS, TO VIEW REALITY THE WAY IT IS..."NO LONGER A QUESTION OF 'INCH MORE' OR AN 'INCH LESS', BUT OF THE LIQUIDATION OF THE STATE BY THE 'SALAMI SYSTEM." PARA TAMIR RECALLED THE POLICIES OF THE FREE CENTER BETWEEN THE TWO WARS: DEMAND FOR URBAN AND SUBURBAN SETTLEMENT IN ALL TERRITORIES; REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES; INTEGRATION OF THE ARABS OF THE TERRITORIES." SEVEN YEARS... HAVE BEEN WASTED...PARA "WE WANT TO ELECTIONS, WE REQUESTED...A MANDATE TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT, AND DID NOT GET THAT MANDATE." "BUT WE ALSO SAID ... WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD NOT BE FORMED BY US." THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY THAT THE LIKUD IS NOT IN THE GOVERNMENT RESTS WITH THE ALIGNMENT. HOWEVER, RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN A CERTAIN SHIFTING: THE PRIME MINISTER DECLARED HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO COOPT LIKUD PROVIDED LIKUD AGREED TO TERRITORIAL COMPROMISES AS A PRICE TO BE PAID FOR PEACE. IN TAMIR'S OPINION THIS INVITATION SHOULD BE POSITIVELY RESPONDED TO, EVEN THOUGH RABIN OUGHT TO COOPT THE LIKUD WITHOUT CONDITION, ON THE BASIS OF RECOGNITION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT. PARA "WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND OTHER FACTORS?" TAMIR ASKED, "WITH US THE MAIN FACTOR IS POLITICAL, REALISTIC, A MATTER OF SECURITY, NOT OF DOGMA. ALL ALONG THE WAY WE HAVE SAID THAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE SLOGAN OF "NOT AN INCH OF GROUND;" BUT SINCE THE WAR THERE HAVE BEEN PROFOUND CHANGES. ANYONE IN HIS RIGHT MIND OUGHT TO HAVE TAKEN STOCK OF HIS OPINIONS. OUR RIGIDITY IS LIKELY TO BREAK US." PARA MR TAMIR PROPOSES A NEW DIVISION INTO DOVES AND HAWKS: THE HAWK WOULD BE HE WHO IS PREPARED TO MAKE TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS IN EXCHANGE FOR TRUE PEACE; THE DOVE... HE WHO IS PREPARED TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ANY COUNTER-VALUE. "WHOEVER SAYS 'NOT AN INCH' WILL FIND HIMSELF OUTSIDE REALITY." PARA "I AM INVITING THE FREE CENTER AND LIKUD TO SHOW COURAGE, TO CONDUCT A FOREIGN POLICY, ADMIT THAT SAYING 'I AM NOT PREPARED TO MOVE EVEN IN EXCHANGE FOR PEACE'; MEANS LIVING SEVEN YEARS IN THE PAST. IT IS VERY DOUBTFUL WHETHER PEACE IS IN THE OFFING. HOWEVER, A POLICY--THAT OUGHT TO BE UNDERSTOOD BY THE WORLD--IS OBLIGATED TO FOLLOW A LINE... ANCHORED IN REALITY. THE STRUGGLE IS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL NOT...PERPETUATION OF A FORMULA, A SQUARE

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METER HERE AND THERE." PARA IN THE OPINION OF MK TAMIR THE LINE OF SEPARATION DOES NOT PASS BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE MEMBERS OF THE FREE CENTER, BUT HIMSELF AND MENACHEM BEGIN. HOWEVER, AT THE SAME TIME ONE CANOT IGNORE THAT THE SEPARATING LINE THAT RUNS THROUGH LIKUD ALSO RUNS THROUGH THE BODY OF THE FREE CENTER. HE REFERRED TO A STATEMENT BY MK EHUD ELMERT THAT THE POLITICAL LINE OF THE FREE CENTER HAS BEEN SINCE THE SIX DAY WAR THAT JUDEA AND SAMARIA ARE PARTS OF ERETZ-ISRAEL,

AND THE SOLUTION FOR THE SECURITY OF THE STATE IS SOVEREIGN ISRAELI FOUNDATION IN THESE TERRITORIES AND INTEGRATION WITH THEIR INHABITANTS. HE RECALLED THE SLOGAN "LIBERATED TERRITORY WILL NOT BE RETURNED," AND CLAIMED THAT INDEED THE FREE CENTER BELIEVED IN "NOT AN INCH," BUT WAS PREPARED TO ADMIT THAT CONCESSIONS WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN SINAI, ALTHOUGH NOT IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA.
END TEXT.

3. COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTEL.

VELIOTES

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